

When you look across the country, people have worked hard to get their lives back in order, to get their small businesses back up and running. States pushed to open up again because they knew that the health of their people, the mental health, the ability for kids to get back in school, was so critical.

Of course, data is out there all around but especially amongst our young kids. Many millions of young kids in America lost a year-plus of learning because of virtual learning. Not being in the classroom just wasn't the same. Those communities that made the effort to open back up again were able to provide a much higher level of education than those schools that went out of their way to shut down. Damage was caused to so many.

As you see most of the country now back at work, they look at Congress and say: Why isn't Washington back at work?

When you look at Federal agencies that are there to provide a service for the 330-plus million people all across this great Nation, Mr. Speaker, those people expect that when they pick up the phone and call those agencies—if you are a military veteran who served this Nation, you surely showed up for work. You showed up, in fact, overseas, in some cases, risking your life, receiving injuries. You want to get your military record so you can be eligible to go get the healthcare you deserve. When you call the VA and they can't get your healthcare records because there are still people not at the office—those are things you can't do remotely—those veterans wait for help. That hurts people.

You have millions of people who are trying to get basic services like a passport. Maybe they are trying to go on their honeymoon; or they are waiting for a loved one to come back home that they haven't seen who lives overseas, and they have been waiting for years; or they want to go visit a relative and have waited 6 months in some cases. We get calls to our offices on these problems, people who have been waiting over 6 months to get a passport renewed.

That is something you cannot do remotely. If you call that office and somebody is at home, they are not able to process your passport from their home, so you have to wait and wait and miss dates and deadlines.

When you see what is happening with so many other people who are counting on the Federal Government to take care of their needs, they wonder why they haven't gone back to work when they have had to go back to work.

You saw the President wanting to hire 87,000 more IRS agents. There are many IRS agents that aren't showing up for work. We still get calls to this day from constituents, hardworking people who live paycheck to paycheck who filed their tax returns in 2021 who still haven't gotten their checks back. They are wondering why somebody is sitting at home not able to process

that payment. Why do they have to wait over a year to get their money back from their government?

The answer is not to double the agency and hire another 87,000 people. It is to let people go back to work.

This bill just says to show up to work to do your job, to serve those millions of people who are paying your salaries and counting on you to get the job done.

This should have been done a long time ago. I am glad we finally are getting this bill brought to the floor. I thank the gentleman for bringing it.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

This legislation asks every Member to answer a simple question: Do you put the needs of your constituents first, or do you put the preferences of Federal bureaucrats first?

We know that expanded telework during the COVID-19 pandemic harmed agency service to our constituents across multiple vital agencies. Instead of fixing those problems and making sure they never happen again if increased telework needs to continue in certain cases, the Biden administration is just blindly doubling down on Federal telework across the board—not to improve service to our constituents, but to dangle a shiny perk in front of existing Federal workers and prospective new Federal hires.

My bill ensures that a new expectation is set for our Federal Government's workforce: that you need to return to your agencies and get the job done for the American people.

Federal telework should only be utilized when it has been proven to improve agency performance, lower agency costs, ensure agency network security, and better disperse the Federal workforce across the Nation.

In the meantime, it requires Federal agencies to reimplement pre-pandemic policies, which were working just fine.

Under this bill, we will know that, whether we have increased Federal telework or not, it will only be to ensure that Federal agencies and their employees provide the best quality of service to our constituents and our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this much-needed bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 139, the SHOW UP Act, which was introduced by my good friend from Kentucky, the Chairman of the Oversight and Accountability Committee, Mr. Comer.

Millions of Tennesseans show up to work every day. However, more than half of federal government workers, who are expected to serve the American people, still aren't showing up for work. This has led to extremely long wait times and delays in services.

Veterans who showed up to work and served our country can't get their proper VA benefits. Families are waiting months for their passports. And in my district, a father waited for more than 8 months to receive his tax return. The entire time, he was left in the dark by the IRS.

Tennesseans deserve better, Mr. Speaker. The pandemic is over, and it's time to get back to work. I urge my colleagues to vote yes on the SHOW UP Act.

Mr. SANTOS. Resolving casework is one of the most important services provided by our offices.

I was shocked to learn that my predecessor left behind numerous unresolved cases—but, in retrospect, perhaps I shouldn't be so critical. Maybe the simple reason is they were unable to solve constituent issues because he and his staff were hampered by the fact that agency personnel, were either unavailable, or, those who were, simply didn't have the resources available for them to process requests. Why? Because they are working from home.

Our functional system of government, how we get things done, was built to support a government workforce where our people come into an office, work together, in one place, face to face.

Around that infrastructure, we have businesses (or perhaps I should say we had businesses) that were built to support that workforce—small businesses, such as coffee shops, restaurants, dry cleaners, etc.

Most industries, who instituted telework policies during the pandemic have returned or have begun to return to their respective workplaces. And like the government, those businesses were designed around an in-office workforce.

This bill does not eliminate telework; it simply returns the workforce to the policies that were in place in 2019.

And perhaps, with the report, that this bill requests from the OPM, there is a good chance some agencies will show that telework or other arrangements make sense.

Fine.

But as of today; we the oversight body, do not have that data.

Let's reset—analyze where we've been and then move forward.

Mr. Speaker, I support H.R.139.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 75, the previous question is ordered on the bill.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the bill.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

RELATING TO A NATIONAL EMERGENCY DECLARED BY THE PRESIDENT ON MARCH 13, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 75, I call up the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 7) relating to a national emergency declared by the President on March 13, 2020, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 75, the joint resolution is considered read.

The text of the joint resolution is as follows:

H.J. RES. 7

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, pursuant to section 202 of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622), the national emergency declared by the finding of the President on March 13, 2020, in Proclamation 9994 (85 Fed. Reg. 15337) is hereby terminated.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The joint resolution shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and the ranking member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES) and the gentleman from Washington (Mr. LARSEN) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on H.J. Res. 7.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in support of H.J. Res. 7, which terminates the March 13, 2020, national emergency declared for COVID-19 under the National Emergencies Act, or the NEA.

The time has come to move past the COVID-19 pandemic. It is no longer a global emergency as it was nearly 3 years ago. It is that simple.

President Biden said, in his own words, "The pandemic is over." He said that last September, and our Senate colleagues, with a bipartisan vote, agreed by passing a resolution last Congress, on November 15, 2022.

The NEA was intended to provide emergency authorities to the President to respond to extraordinary situations in which the President must act quickly. We are no longer in that spot.

The national emergency was declared by President Trump at the beginning of the pandemic, nearly 3 years ago, in March 2020. At that time, it was a new virus. The American public and the world at large had little information, and we had to get a handle on the spread of COVID-19.

Today, we are in a vastly different spot. We have treatments. We have better methods to track COVID. We have a better understanding of the virus itself, and the Federal Government has spent trillions combating the virus and protecting the economy from the fallout of the global shutdown.

At this point, there is no longer a need for the declaration to utilize the extraordinary authorities provided under the NEA. It seems that the White House agrees with this, too, but just thinks we need to wait until May 11.

That logic and math just doesn't seem right to me. Consider this: The declaration is scheduled to end on March 1 of this year, so the President is suggesting he does intend to, once again, extend the emergency. That is why Congress needs to act on this resolution.

It is simple. Absent the President ceding these emergency powers, it is incumbent on Congress to rein in the executive branch to ensure these powers are not abused and that these authorities do not continue in perpetuity.

America should be fully open. Our kids should be back in the classroom. Our families should be back at work. Here in the House, we are starting by removing this emergency declaration.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1515

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in opposition to H.J. Res. 7, a resolution to terminate the COVID-19 emergency declaration, a resolution introduced by Representative GOSAR.

The coronavirus pandemic has been a public health and economic calamity for our country. We lost over 1 million of our fellow citizens to this deadly virus in wave after wave of devastating news for families. Entire industries have been forced to shut down and then restart from a standstill. Others have had to entirely reimagine the way they do business, costing billions of dollars in the process.

The impact of the pandemic was inequitable in the extreme. The digital divide grew even wider as those with internet access could work from home or go to school from home while others were left behind. Transportation workers, healthcare workers, law enforcement, and grocery store workers were all unable to work from home, leaving them at an elevated risk during a very dangerous time.

But thanks to actions of the previous Congress, including the American Rescue Plan, the CHIPS and Science Act, the Inflation Reduction Act, and the bipartisan infrastructure law, we are well on our way to robust recovery from this dark chapter of our Nation's history.

However, our work is not done. New variants continue to emerge, taking a toll on our workforce and exacerbating the labor shortage facing many businesses. Healthcare workers are still on the front lines of this pandemic. Last week, they saw nearly 4,000 Americans die from COVID.

Terminating the emergency declaration now sends the wrong message and

could have consequences for public health and safety. In my State alone, we had over 4,000 cases in last week.

The uncertain impact of long COVID, particularly on those with preexisting health conditions, adds a layer of complexity to our path to normalcy.

With these complex issues still facing businesses, local leaders, and the American people, it would be harmful and irresponsible to force a premature end to the flexibility offered by the Presidential emergency declaration from March of 2020.

President Biden has no intention of using these emergency powers forever. We know that because he announced his intention to end the COVID-19 national emergency on May 11. This May deadline provides time to develop a strategic and a thoughtful plan regarding the termination of these authorities. There is no need for Congress to act now before the President acts on this issue. Forcing an end to the emergency declaration without regard to the consequences is shortsighted and wrong.

There are many examples where a rushed move to end the national emergency declaration could have unintended negative consequences for the U.S. Ending the emergency declaration would roll back the enrollment and payment deadlines for individuals who have lost their jobs to sign up for COBRA or pay COBRA premiums. This will mean burdensome deadlines on consumers who get healthcare coverage from job-based plans, including laid-off workers and their families.

Ending the emergency declaration will reverse efforts to address mass incarceration and prison crowding by terminating the CARES Act home confinement provisions. This makes it difficult for the Bureau of Prisons to protect inmates who are at high risk of serious illness or death from COVID-19.

Ending the emergency declaration will end video court proceedings. This is inefficient and will cost marshals time and money if they resume transporting inmates back and forth to court.

Ending the emergency declaration will cut preplanned sickness benefits and unemployment benefits for rail workers. It is wrong to cut these earned benefits when rail workers need them most.

Ending the emergency declaration will also threaten Victims of Crime Assistance funding, or VOCA funding, a critical lifeline for individuals and children dealing with the aftermath of being a victim to crime.

The administration has a plan to bring the national emergency declaration to an orderly end on May 11, aligning with its commitment to give at least 60 days' notice prior to termination. I think this is a sensible and reasoned approach that Congress should support.

We shouldn't be using an ax when a scalpel will do. Rushing this resolution to the floor is the wrong approach, and I urge my colleagues to oppose it.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. CRAWFORD), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit.

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, the pandemic is over.

At least that is what we were told by President Biden several months ago in a September interview. Yet here we are almost 5 months later, and the White House has failed to roll back the emergency declaration.

In fact, it wasn't until House Republicans scheduled a vote to do just that, to terminate that declaration, that President Biden announced that he would actually end it on May 11. What he really did was announce that he was giving our friends on the other side of the aisle a little bit of political cover to vote "no" on this bill. Instead, they would rather continue to watch the American economy suffer for an additional 3 months while we continue this unnecessary declaration of an emergency.

I am glad President Biden has followed House Republicans' lead on this, but why wait months?

We can vote to end it right now, today.

We have already let this measure drag on for nearly 3 years, signifying an egregious abuse of Presidential powers. These emergency powers have been used to harm our economy and exacerbate our supply chain problems, and the President is content to allow that to happen for another 3 months.

Our supply chain doesn't need this to continue anymore. It needs to end now. It is time for us to stop living in the past. Americans are ready to move forward. They are tired of hearing mixed messages that the pandemic is over but still seeing all of the consequences of these emergency declarations and implementing COVID regulations.

Let's finally deliver on this promise that the end isn't near; it is right here, right now.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the underlying resolution.

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I just note that there is no record that the national emergency exacerbated supply chain problems in the U.S. There is every record in evidence that COVID exacerbated supply chain problems in the U.S., bringing our economy to a standstill, and in my view, every evidence that the investment in the bipartisan infrastructure law and the CHIPS and Science Act are doing exactly what they needed to do, to bring our economy back. There is no evidence otherwise. Just saying that for the record.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR).

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.J. Res. 7, legislation I in-

troduced requiring the Biden administration to finally end the outdated and abusive COVID national emergency declaration.

Nearly 3 years have passed since President Trump rightfully declared a national emergency concerning the COVID pandemic. The factual basis for this declaration was apparent then.

As time has progressed and as we have learned about this virus, we know that it is no longer a national emergency. Since President Trump's initial declaration, the House of Representatives has not once voted, let alone debated, whether to terminate this national emergency or keep it as required—let me repeat that—required under the National Emergencies Act.

The National Emergencies Act requires Congress to review termination or continuation of a national emergency no later than 6 months after its implementation and at least every 6 months thereafter. Yet, former Speaker PELOSI repeatedly blocked my attempts to simply debate about the merits of extending or terminating the COVID national emergency declaration, despite the law requiring its review. That would make it almost four to six times we should have had this debate during that time.

What type of representative body cannot even discuss a national emergency?

Until now, the House of Representatives has failed to perform its most basic constitutional duty: checking the powers of the executive branch and the power of the purse.

In contrast, companion legislation has twice passed the Senate, most recently with overwhelming bipartisan support.

Last September, Mr. Biden declared the pandemic is over, cases are down, America has opened back up. This hardly sounds like a country under a national COVID emergency. Yet, Joe Biden continued to extend the COVID national emergency simply to force Americans to live under extreme measures that deprive us of our freedoms.

Just this week, Mr. Biden issued a Statement of Administrative Policy opposing H.J. Res. 7, implying to veto the legislation. This action stands in stark contrast to the recent promises that Biden would end the COVID national emergency in May.

Let's not forget that Mr. Biden once promised the American people that there would be no Federal COVID vaccine mandates. Yet, he soon lied and mandated COVID vaccines for millions of Americans.

We simply cannot trust if and when Biden will keep his word. The evidence is to the contrary.

It is time to end this emergency declaration now. If passed through the House today, the National Emergencies Act requires the Senate to expeditiously vote on my resolution within 18 calendar days.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this legislation and send it

to the Senate. Do your due diligence. Do what the law requires.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, thank you for that announcement.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for the opportunity and would just tell the body and everybody listening: Not since World War II, and that crisis that our country had to deal with, has the cause of socialism and Big Government been advanced more than during the declaration of this national emergency.

People might disagree with me, but let me make it real for you. The Federal Government and State governments used this national emergency to stop people from working in their businesses, stop their businesses cold and force them to inject something into their body if they wanted to go to work, if they wanted to go to school, if they wanted to travel. If that is not Big Government and oppression, I am not sure what is.

People say, well, what does it matter?

Well, there are more than 120 special statutory authorities granted to the administration that are now going to go away. Everybody says: Well, he is going to do it on May 11. Well, he said last September he was going to do it then.

What is taking so long?

The rest of the country knows that the pandemic is over, and they know that the national emergency should be over, as well. They know that part of the 122 special statutory authorities includes allowing the President to suspend a prohibition on testing chemical and biological substances on unwitting human subjects—think about that—or allowing the President to shut down or take over radio stations or freeze any asset or financial transaction.

Indeed, the pandemic is over. The President announced it last September. The Senate, just in November, just a couple months ago, voted to end it overwhelmingly.

For anybody that is concerned about title 42, the statute governing title 42 does not make any mention of the emergency declaration.

It needs to be ended. It needs to be ended now. Americans need to be free and not oppressed by this Federal Government and these extraordinary powers that have advanced the cause of socialism like no other time in our history.

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would just note that everyone is looking forward to the day when COVID-19 is a distant memory. But we have to work toward that day cautiously and steadily, and the emergency declaration should not be terminated until there is time to conduct a careful review on science. It should not be terminated on the whim of any one Member of Congress.

The administration has a plan to bring the national emergency declaration to an orderly end on May 11, aligning with their commitment to give at least 60 days' notice prior to the termination. I think it is a sensible and reasoned approach that Congress should support.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA).

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, so the national emergency declaration was on March 13 of 2020, nearly 3 years ago.

This legislation we are talking about today passed the Senate twice with the votes of nearly two-thirds of the Senators. But the former Speaker repeatedly blocked the resolution from coming to the floor in the House.

The President is granted more than 120 special statutory powers—statutory, which usually means passing a law—through the national emergency declaration, all of which he continues to wield as long as this emergency is in place.

The President has extended the emergency twice, which would otherwise have automatically terminated on the anniversary of the first declaration.

These powers are meant for the time of actual emergency. President Biden himself has said the pandemic is over in his "60 Minutes" interview in September of 2022.

This administration has continually abused these powers and used the national emergency to enact liberal policies without the approval of Congress. These are things that probably wouldn't pass muster in Congress, because I don't think a lot of my colleagues would want to vote for them on the record.

Since the emergency was first declared, the Federal Government has spent over \$6 trillion in response to COVID-19. Students have lost invaluable time learning in school facilities. Countless businesses closed down that aren't coming back. Families have been separated from loved ones during holidays and at hospitals, unable to see dying loved ones and not even able to have a funeral for them. Heartless.

□ 1530

Nurses and docs, at one point called heroes, start to be called goats because they don't necessarily want to take an experimental vaccine.

We have Jekyll and Hyde ideas coming out of the administration now—thinking like, well, we are going to sue to make people wear masks again on

planes and trains at the same time he is saying we are going to end it all in May. It is crazy. We are going in the wrong direction.

Why don't we pass this legislation that the President won't do himself and put the power back into the hands of the people here that are elected by the people.

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I would just note that if we are going to cite President Biden's comment that the pandemic is over, will the House also agree with the President that there will be no cuts to Social Security and Medicare?

Will the House also agree that President Biden has said that the economy has turned around, creating 11 million jobs, and the economy is robust?

If we are going to pick and choose what the President says to make any one argument, then let's look at the totality of the President's record, in fairness to the President.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE).

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. LARSEN for allowing me this time to speak.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the bill before us, H.J. Res. 7.

I am pleased that President Biden announced this week that he will end the COVID-19 national emergency declaration on May 11. This will provide a reasonable path to winding down the pandemic measures without leaving States and cities caught off guard with sudden shifts in their budgets.

COVID was a once-in-a-lifetime emergency, and an abrupt end to the spending under the emergency declaration would cause chaos for Americans. The wind down aligns with the administration's previous plans to give cities, States, businesses, and taxpayers at least 60 days' notice prior to the termination of the emergency declaration.

Mr. Speaker, this is sensible policy-making, and it is a welcome change from the prior administration's frantic, poorly-considered, and dangerous approach to any sort of emergency, including COVID.

I agree with the President's plan to wind down the emergency declaration, and I know my colleagues on the other side of the aisle agree with this plan, as well. Why?

Because this bill was rushed to the floor without allowing our committee to review it, without soliciting input from any of the cities or States that would be impacted. Nobody has been working with the Senate or the White House to find a solution that makes sense.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, the majority knows that abrupt shifts are bad. Yet, they are free to vote for a bill which they know would cause chaos.

They also know that it won't be considered by the Senate.

I can forgive a messaging bill; we all do that from time to time. What is so galling about the bill before us today is that it shows just how far outside the mainstream the Republican Party is.

The American people want common-sense solutions that protect our economy, not a far-right agenda driven by the most extreme voices in their party. It is the same voices that brought us yesterday's anti-vaccine bill.

Who knows what other secret promises the Speaker made to the extremists to secure the gavel?

Let's get the bill over with because we all know that it is not going anywhere.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has again expired.

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, we can then get on to debating the majority's economic plans, like a 30 percent national sales tax or holding the debt limit hostage.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" so we can stop wasting time with this nonsense and get back to the work for the American people.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. MASSIE).

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Speaker, I find it incredible what the other side of the aisle is saying. They said this bill was rushed to the floor.

Do you remember when this was invoked, the National Emergencies Act? March 13, 2020. After that we were told 15 days to slow the spread. How many days are we up to? Does anybody over there know?

It is over 1,000 days. What has happened in that period of time? How did we get to this position?

The law that Congress passed that was invoked by the former-President and extended by this President, the National Emergencies Act, requires at least every 6 months you vote on whether to extend it. We did not follow the law under the former Speaker.

They used the Rules Committee to prevent this bill from coming to a vote and then the claim that the Senate would need time to deal with this. The Senate has already passed this. The bipartisan Senate passed 61 to 37.

I expect there would have been a lot of votes here but the President came in to try to save their skin. The gig is up, but he wants to keep the music going a little bit longer.

Mr. Biden says that he wants to honor his commitment to give 60 days' notice before ending it because he issued this statement of administrative policy. He only issued this when this bill came to the floor; but he is going to honor his commitment to 60 days' notice.

Why is he taking 100 days? If anybody over there can do the math for me. May 11—is that 60 days from now?

No, it is more like 100 days from now, roughly.

The notion that this was rushed to the floor is ridiculous. Biden wants to keep it going. He wants to spend money under his emergency authorities, which he shouldn't have right now. It is very irresponsible with the debt limit looming and with us in extraordinary measures.

The reality is he wants 100 more days to shove money out the door and to waste money that hasn't been guarded very well or audited. It has been 1,000 into 15 days to slow the spread. It is time to end this emergency now.

Mr. Speaker, I support Mr. GOSAR's bill.

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST).

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, back in September, President Biden said the pandemic is over. In early January, he extended his public health emergency for COVID for the twelfth time. Now he says the public health emergency will end May 11.

The emergency's been ended, then extended, then expired, when all of us know that it hasn't existed for months.

I guess we can say now that COVID will magically disappear in May because he says so. Who knows? We might even get new guidance tomorrow. I guess the Americans should watch out.

The American people—regardless of what was said on the other side of the aisle—are tired of this. They want to get back to business as usual. The American people are fed up with shutdowns that killed our jobs and restricted our rights.

We are going to end this madness now; we need to, that is why I am a cosponsor of the bill.

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are fond of quoting the President and saying the pandemic is over. I just hope they will also agree with the President that we have had the 2 strongest years of job growth in history the last 2 years. We have had the lowest level of unemployment in 50 years. We have a new record low unemployment for Black and Hispanic Americans and record low unemployment for people with disabilities.

I hope as they are picking and choosing what they choose to agree with the President on, that they look at these facts, and also come out and agree with the President that these are also the facts.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT).

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Speaker, it has been nearly 3 years since the first national emergency declaration was issued related to the COVID-19 pandemic on March 13, 2020.

Since then, the Federal Government has authorized over \$6 trillion in response to COVID-19. Our children have suffered severe learning loss due to school closures, and countless small businesses have been forced to permanently close their doors.

The Democratic Party has used and abused the national emergency authorization to push their unpopular, radical agenda, like the eviction moratorium, student loan forgiveness, and reckless spending that has led to skyrocketing inflation that is impacting my constituents today—your constituents today.

When they go to the grocery store and are paying \$9, \$10, \$11 for 12 eggs, this is a problem. They also put unconstitutional vaccine mandates in place to put healthcare workers and our military servicemembers, serving in all branches of our military, out of work.

COVID is over. Yet, nearly 3 years later, more than 35 National Emergencies Acts are still in effect, and the current administration is continuing to abuse more than 120 special statutory powers only meant for times of emergency.

Even Joe Biden said the pandemic is over. We agreed with that long before he said it, and we are happy he is finally saying it. It is far past time to put an end to this abuse.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend and colleague, Representative GOSAR, for his strong leadership on this issue. I am proud to be cosponsor of this legislation, and I strongly support it.

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, the administration has a plan to bring the national emergency declaration to an early end on May 11, aligning with its commitment to at least 60 days' notice prior to termination. This gives time for a deliberate and sensible wind down of the national emergency.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to oppose H.J. Res. 7, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, in closing, last year President Biden acknowledged that the pandemic is over, as has been pointed out.

There is no compelling need for the President to continue exercising the extraordinary authorities under the NEA. The Senate, on a bipartisan basis, agreed in November, and here in the people's House I think it is time that we do the same.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of this joint resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 75, the previous question is ordered on the joint resolution.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the joint resolution.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the joint resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 44 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1630

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. TENNEY) at 4 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

Passage of H.R. 139; and

Passage of H.J. Res. 7.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

STOPPING HOME OFFICE WORK'S UNPRODUCTIVE PROBLEMS ACT OF 2023

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on passage of the bill (H.R. 139) to require Executive agencies to submit to Congress a study of the impacts of expanded telework and remote work by agency employees during the COVID-19 pandemic and a plan for the agency's future use of telework and remote work, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

This is a 15-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 221, nays 206, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 103]

YEAS—221

Aderholt	Balderson	Bishop (NC)
Alford	Banks	Boebert
Allen	Barr	Bost
Amodei	Bean (FL)	Brecheen
Armstrong	Bentz	Buchanan
Arrington	Bergman	Buck
Babin	Bice	Bucshon
Bacon	Biggs	Burchett
Baird	Bilirakis	Burgess